Snipers & Observers Current Operations Looking Towards the Future

MSG Carey

Who has snipers?

- Infantry (Army / Marine)
  - Bn Level – Section or Platoon
  - Brigade/Corps – Platoon / Company
- SOF(Army / Navy)
  - 2 per Det
  - Rangers - Platoon +
- MP / SP / AFSF / CG
  - SRT / SWAT 2 – 3 Ea
  - Coast Guard
- Stryker / Land Warrior
  - Rebirth of Designated Marksman?

Who is Selected for Training?

- Above average intelligence
- Self-Disciplined
- Independent
- Physically Fit
- Mature
- Demonstrated talent
- Cleared by a DOD Psychiatrist
- Primary or Additional Duty

Training Snipers

- Seven sniper schools within DOD
  - 3 Marine
  - 3 RA
  - 1 ARNG

- 2 to 8 weeks in length
  - All provide training in the following:
    - Precision Shooting Skills
    - Observer Skills
    - Field-craft Techniques

- Sustainment Training

Operational Area

- Global
- Permissive
- Semi-Permissive
- Non-Permissive

Operational Employment

- Conventional
  - Two Man Team
  - Mutually Supported
  - Limited to LOS communications
  - C^2 Limitations
  - ROE Dependent
  - Short Duration
- SOF
  - Two to Four Man Team
  - May have support
  - Full Spectrum Communications
  - C^2 accessible
  - ROE Dependent
  - Long Duration

What Snipers Provide Commanders

- Combat / Real-Time information
- Reconnaissance
- Supporting Fires
- Precision Fire
- Threat Elimination
- Force Protection
- Rapid Coordination
- Increase to Sphere of Influence
- Decreased Risk of Collateral Damage

Current Capabilities

- Digital & Video Imagery (SOF)
- Precision Fire
  - 100-400M on Limited Exposure Targets
  - 800M on Personnel Targets
  - 1200M with Specialized Weapons
- Hard Target Interdiction
  - Soft Vehicles / Equipment 1400-1600M
- CAS / FO

Current Limitations

- Weather – Wind & Mirage
- Visibility
- Ammunition
- Weapon systems
- Equipment Compatibility
- Training
- Soldier Load
- Proper Fielding of New Equipment

Current and Near Term Projects

- MOD 12 MK 0/1 (SPR)
  - 77gr Match BTHP

Current and Near Term Projects (Cont.)

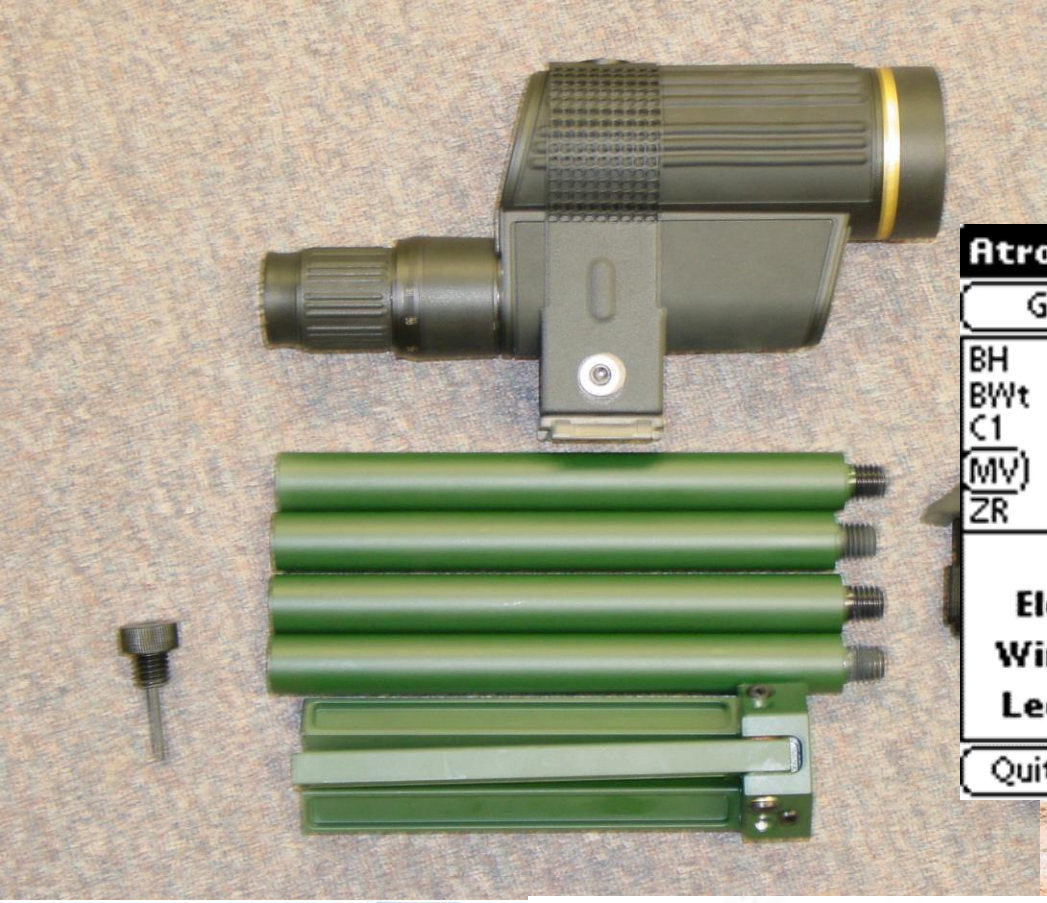
- MOD 11 MK 2
  - AA11 & Subsonic 7.62

Current and Near Term Projects (Cont.)

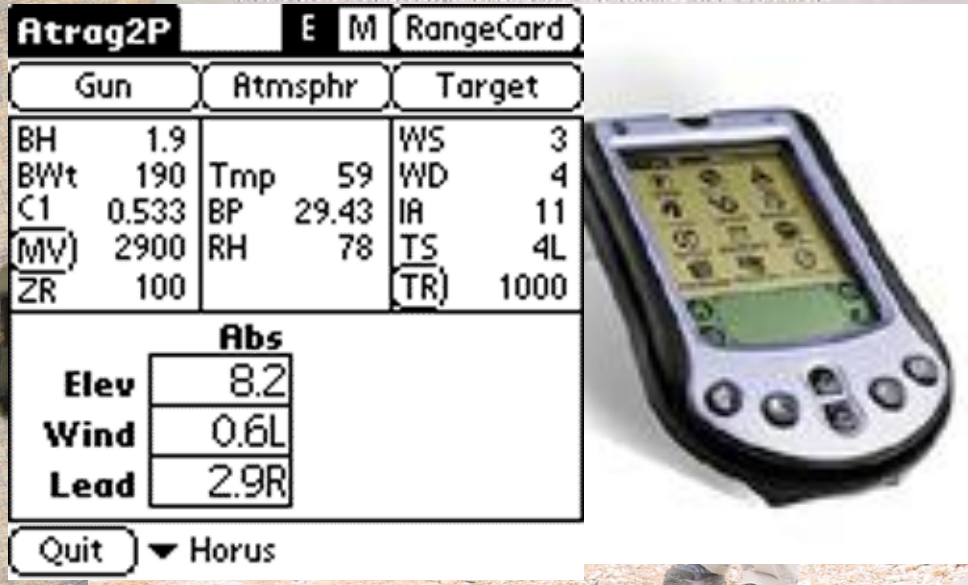
- XM107 Interim Fix – M82A3
  - A606 Raufus

Current and Near Term Projects (Cont.)

- Universal Night Sight Kit
  - M3LR 3-10 Day Optic
  - McCann Rail (1913)
  - UNS



J40 .308-220 Match BC .930


Atrag2P
E
M
RangeCard
Gun
Atmsphr
Target
BH 1.9
BWt 190
C1 0.533
MV 2900
ZR 100
Tmp 59
BP 29.43
RH 78
WS 3
WD 4
IA 11
TS 4L
TR 1000
Abs
Elev 8.2
Wind 0.6L
Lead 2.9R
Quit
Horus

Future Weapon Needs / Ideas

- Retrofit SWS's w/Suppressors
- Retrofit SWS's w/Adjustable Stocks
- Tactical Sling
- Hard Target Rifle (XM107)
- Counter-Sniper / Long Range Rifle
  - Magnum .338 Lapua
  - Suppressed
- Hyper Velocity Sabot / Rail Gun
  - > 6000FPS
  - Monolithic Projectile, DU, AP/HE
- Gyroscopic Stabilization of Weapon System
- Ballistic Computer Integrated to Stock / Scope

Future Ammunition Needs / Ideas

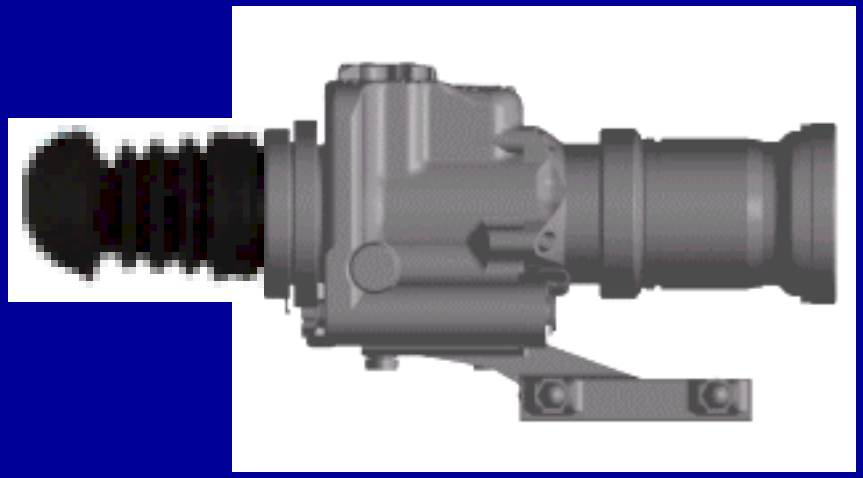
- Monolithic / Mixed Metal Bullets
- Better Sub-Sonic Rounds
- Frangible Rounds
- Raufus Type Round (.338 / .300)
- SRTA / Simunition Rounds
- IR / NVG Marker in Bullet Tail
- Labeling of Ammunition

Future Optics Needs

- Integrated Optics
  - Spotting Scope / LRF / Designator / Illuminator / Camera
  - Day Rifle Scope w/LRF / BC Link
  - Thermal Rifle Sight with LRF / BC Link
  - All optics should be capable of integration of Data / Video and communications equipment
  - Low Light Digital Displays for scales
  - Tactile / Large threads & connectors
  - Common Batteries

Design / Development Considerations

- Solicit and get operator input throughout
- > Lethality / Range
- > / = Accuracy
- < Weight
- Ergonomic
- Modular / Integrated Systems Approach
- Simplicity
- Durability
- Versatility
- Ease of Sustainment / Maintenance
- Quality Control

Questions / Comments

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